

Public Land Management

Subject Outline

Subject code: ENVM 3507 Credit Points: 10
Subject coordinator: Peter Hunnam Semester: 1

Brief description

Types of public land and sea areas and their management

The management of public lands to meet specified uses and objectives.

The legislative mandate of management agencies.

Subject aims

The aims of the subject are:

- to provide an appreciation of the place of public land (both terrestrial and marine) management agencies in society;
- to demonstrate how the legislative mandate of public land management agencies is combined with a knowledge of resource capability and the political process to resolve issues in land management;
- to provide an understanding of policies and practices applied in managing public lands, including the application of user pays principles to recreation management.

Subject objectives

On completion of the subject, students will be able to -

- (i) describe the range of agencies involved in the management of public lands;
- (ii) discuss the legislative mandate of such agencies;
- (iii) outline current issues in public land management;
- (iv) apply the user pays principle to recreation and other uses of public lands;

- (v) discuss the principles associated with the letting and management of concessions;
- (vi) apply problem solving methods to issue resolution in public land management;
- (vii) outline management planning principles;
- (viii) discuss several current issues in public land management and the options available for their resolution.

Topics

1. The scope and purpose of public land management.
2. Why “public” land management - the economics of public goods.
3. Public Land Management models - by principal purpose
 - Nature conservation* (national parks, nature reserves, (mandates and management paradigms) wilderness areas)
 - Forestry* (state forests/timber reserves)
 - Multiple use* (marine parks, world heritage and other international designations, conservation parks and other related reserves, recreation areas)
 - Integrated conservation and development programs*
4. Planning processes for PLM -
 - Conflicting demands on public lands
 - land acquisition and re-allocation
 - management planning
5. PLM issues and policies -
 - the policy development process
 - resource assessment and management
 - fire and weeds
 - recreation and tourism
 - user pays and concessions
 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander involvement in public land management

Assessment

Item	% Weight	Details	Due Dates
1.1	5%	Assignment - Report plan	Thursday 6 April
1.2	15%	Assignment - Presentation	Thursday 31 May
1.3	40%	Assignment - Report	Thursday 7 June
2.	40%	Closed book, 2 hr Examination	Examination timetable

Assignment

The assignment will take the form of an individual project investigation into an aspect of public land or sea area management that interests you, leading to the preparation and presentation of a report. Possible topics will be suggested or students may nominate their own with the agreement of the subject coordinator.

You will be required to prepare at the outset a brief or plan of your project investigation and report, and to review your plan with the subject coordinator by week 5 of the course.

On completion of your investigation, you will make a verbal presentation of your report to the group in addition to submitting a written report. The purpose of the presentation is to convey to the group the findings of your investigation, the relevance of the topic to public land management, the conclusions you have reached and any recommendations you have for addressing issues uncovered.

You will be assessed on your initial project plan and on both your final presentation and written report.

Requirements of students for the assignment

1. Project plan – A plan or brief for the project investigation that you propose to carry out is to be written-up and submitted by week 5 (2 April 2001). You will need to be prepared to discuss the plan with the coordinator and may be required to amend or develop the plan in the light of the discussion.
2. Presentation – Each student will make a presentation of his/her report to the whole group in week 12 or 13, on Thursday 24 May or Thursday 31 May. You will have 20-25 minutes in which to make the presentation, and may use simple visual aids if you wish.
3. Report – The report on the project is to be submitted on Thursday 7 June 2001. Late submission of project reports will result in an automatic deduction of 5% of available marks per day for the first 5 days. Project reports will not be accepted more than 5 days after the due date. Extensions without penalty may be granted for medical or other bona fide reasons. Other assignments falling due at the same time is not considered a valid reason for an extension. Any requests for extensions must be received prior to the due date for the project.

Tutorial/ workshops

The majority of tutorial/ workshop sessions will be used for discussion of students' investigations and findings, and their relationship to the wider consideration of public land management.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the submission of work which is not your own for which you claim credit. This can extend to work which you have done in a group and fail to acknowledge that the work is the product of a group. Under the University Statutes, plagiarism constitutes misconduct. It is the policy of the School of Natural and Rural Systems Management that work in which plagiarism is evident will be given a grade of zero and that a recommendation will be made to the Executive Dean that misconduct proceedings under the University Statutes be initiated for all students who may be involved. The University Statutes provide for severe penalties for students found guilty of plagiarism.